

SENATE FILE _____
BY BOLKCOM

(COMPANION TO LSB 1642HH
BY WESSEL=KROESCHELL)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to childhood obesity and foods and beverages sold
2 and served on public school campuses, providing for a task
3 force, and providing an effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

5 TLSB 1642XS 82

6 kh/sh/8

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1 1 Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS. The general assembly
1 2 finds and declares as follows:
1 3 1. Childhood obesity has reached epidemic levels in Iowa
1 4 and throughout the nation as declared by the surgeon general
1 5 of the United States. The percentage of overweight children
1 6 has tripled in the last forty years from five percent to
1 7 fifteen percent.

1 8 2. Obesity is the most common health problem facing
1 9 children, according to the American academy of pediatrics.
1 10 The centers for disease control and prevention of the United
1 11 States department of health and human services finds that
1 12 thirty-one percent of low-income children between two and five
1 13 years of age in Iowa are overweight or at risk of becoming
1 14 overweight.

1 15 3. Iowa's overweight children are at high risk for
1 16 developing severe long-term health problems, including but not
1 17 limited to type 2 diabetes, high blood lipids, high blood
1 18 pressure, cardiovascular disease, sleep apnea, asthma, and
1 19 orthopedic problems. At current rates, one out of three
1 20 children born today will develop diabetes.

1 21 4. Overweight children also are often affected by
1 22 discrimination, psychological stress, and low self-esteem.

1 23 5. Twenty-five years ago, children drank twice as much
1 24 milk as soda. The situation is reversed today, with children
1 25 drinking twice as much soda as milk. Since milk is the
1 26 principal source of calcium, this loss of calcium jeopardizes
1 27 the forty percent peak bone mass accumulated during
1 28 adolescence, leading to increased risks of fractures and
1 29 osteoporosis.

1 30 6. Schools are a logical place to address the issues of
1 31 overweight and health in children through promotion of healthy
1 32 food and physical activity.

1 33 7. Increased emphasis on serving only healthy foods in
1 34 Iowa public schools can decrease and prevent overweight and
1 35 other diseases and improve the well-being of Iowa's children.

2 1 8. Encouraging Iowa's children to adopt healthy lifelong
2 2 eating habits and physical activity can increase their
2 3 productivity and reduce their risk of dying prematurely.

2 4 Sec. 2. HEALTH, FITNESS, AND NUTRITION TASK FORCE.

2 5 1. Consistent with the essential academic learning
2 6 requirements for health and fitness, including nutrition, the
2 7 department of education and the department of public health
2 8 shall convene a task force including representatives from the
2 9 Iowa dietetic association; the Iowa school nutrition directors
2 10 association; the Iowa association of school boards; the Iowa
2 11 medical association; the Iowa dental association; the Iowa
2 12 association for health, physical education, recreation, and
2 13 dance; the university of Iowa college of public health; and
2 14 the Iowa state university extension service to develop a model
2 15 policy regarding access to nutritious foods, opportunities for
2 16 physical activity, and accurate education related to these

2 17 topics. The policy shall set a minimum standard for the
2 18 nutritional content of foods and beverages sold or provided
2 19 throughout the school day or sold in competition with the
2 20 federal school food programs.
2 21 2. The department of education and the department of
2 22 public health shall submit the model policy developed by the
2 23 task force to the governor and the general assembly and shall
2 24 post the model policy on their internet websites by January 1,
2 25 2008.

2 26 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
2 27 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

2 28 EXPLANATION

2 29 This bill states the findings and declarations of the
2 30 general assembly regarding the epidemic of childhood obesity
2 31 in Iowa, the related medical and emotional risks, and the
2 32 logical role for schools in addressing the issues of
2 33 overweight and health in children through healthy food and
2 34 physical activity.

2 35 The bill directs the department of education and the
3 1 department of public health to convene a task force including
3 2 representatives from the Iowa dietetic association; the Iowa
3 3 school nutrition directors association; the Iowa association
3 4 of school boards; the Iowa medical association; the Iowa
3 5 dental association; the Iowa association for health, physical
3 6 education, recreation, and dance; the university of Iowa
3 7 college of public health; and the Iowa state university
3 8 extension service to develop a model policy regarding access
3 9 to nutritious foods, opportunities for physical activity, and
3 10 accurate education related to these topics; which model policy
3 11 sets a minimum standard for the nutritional content of foods
3 12 and beverages sold or provided throughout the school day.

3 13 The departments must submit the model policy to the
3 14 governor and the general assembly and post the model policy on
3 15 their internet websites by January 1, 2008.

3 16 The bill takes effect upon enactment.

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